

- (e) at least one video communication path
 - (i) arranged for transport of audio and video signals,
 - (1) originating at one of the signal sources,
 - (2) to at least one of the display devices;
- (f) at least one processor
 - (i) capable of providing data conferencing signals; and
- (g) at least one data communication path
 - (i) arranged for transmission of
 - (1) data conferencing visual information signals,
 - (2) to one of the display devices,

wherein the system is configured to

- (i) reproduce video images and audio,
 - (1) based on the transported video and audio signals,
 - (2) at one of the display devices,
 - (3) to define a video conference,
- (ii) display visual information,
 - (1) based on the carried data conferencing signals,
 - (2) at one of the display devices
 - (3) to define a data conference, and
- (iii) store at least some of the data signals plus related audio and/or video signals
 - (1) from the data and video conferences
 - (2) for subsequent retrieval, and
 - (3) synchronized play back
 - (4) representing the relationship in which they were created.

77. The system of Claim \$6, wherein

- (a) the visual information is at least one of:
 - (i) a snapshot;
 - (ii) information associated with an applications program; and
 - (iii) a real-time display of video images.

58. The system of Claim 56, wherein

- (a) either the data, audio or video signals
- (b) can be used
 - (i) as a timing reference
 - (ii) to synchronize
 - (1) the play back or
 - (2) the storage
 - (iii) as related components of a collaborative, multimedia conference.

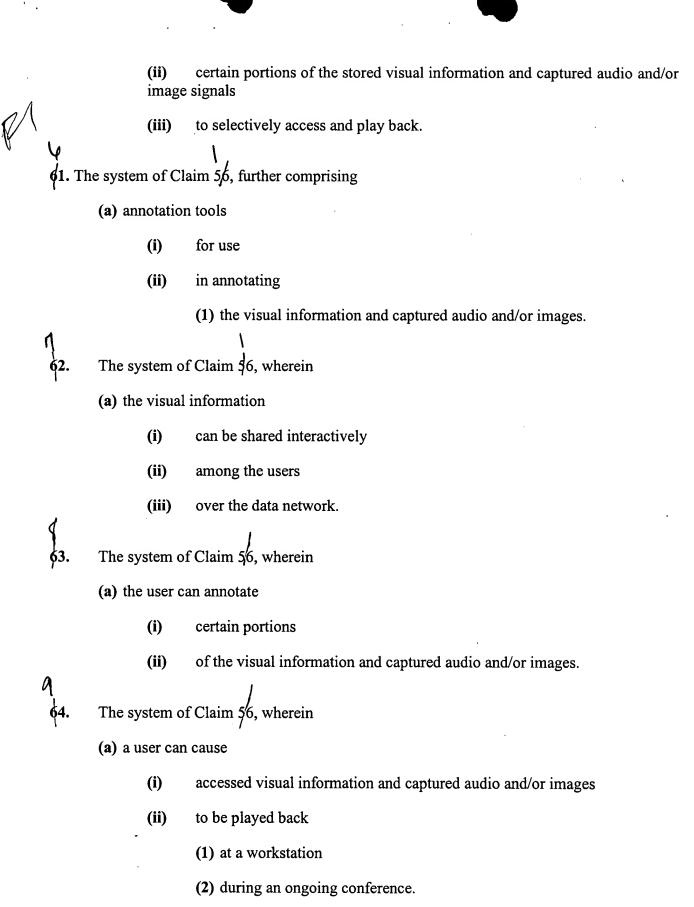
\$9. The system of Claim 58, wherein

- (a) time codes
 - (i) can be assigned
 - (1) to the data, audio and/or video signals
 - (2) during storage
 - (3) to facilitate synchronizing the play back.

60. The system of Claim 58, wherein

- (a) a user
 - (i) can use the time codes

72







∫0 6\$.

A method of making and storing a multimedia message, comprising the steps of:

- (a) capturing
 - (i) images and/or audio
 - (ii) of a user
 - (iii) at an associated workstation;
- (b) creating
 - (i) data signals,
 - (1) representing visual information
 - (2) other than the captured image
 - (ii) during the step of capturing;
- (c) reproducing
 - (i) one or more of
 - (1) the visual information and
 - (2) captured image
 - (3) at the workstation; and
- (d) storing
 - (i) the audio and/or video signals and
 - (ii) the associated visual information
 - (iii) for subsequent retrieval and playback
 - (1) of the associated visual information and the captured image and/or audio
 - (2) in a synchronized manner.

/ 66.

The method of Claim \$65, wherein

(a) the visual information is one of the group of:

10

(i) a bitmap;

5 74

- (ii) information associated with an applications program;
 (iii) a real-time display of video images; and
 (iv) textual information.
 10
 The method of Claim 6b, further comprising the step of
 (a) providing annotation tools
 (i) at the workstations
 (ii) so that a user can annotate
- The method of Claim 65, further comprising the step of

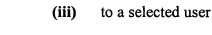
 (a) using

(1) the visual information

(2) prior to the step of storing.

- (i) at least one of the data, audio or video signals(1) as a timing reference
- (ii) to synchronize the play back.
- The method of Claim 65, further comprising the step of

 (a) assigning time codes
 - (i) to the data, audio or video signals
 - (ii) to facilitate
 - (1) synchronizing the play back.
- 70. The method of Claim 65, further including the step of
 (a) causing
 - (i) the multimedia event
 - (ii) to be transferred



- (iv) as a multimedia mail message
- (b) such that a selected user
 - (i) can initiate the play back
 - (1) of the visual information and captured audio and/or image
 - (2) at the selected user's associated workstation.

71. The method of Claim 70, wherein

- (a) the retrieval and play back
 - (i) is initiated
 - (1) by the selected user
 - (2) during an ongoing conference.

72. The method of Claim 71, wherein

- (a) the stored visual information, captured audio and/or images
 - (i) contains time codes and
- (b) wherein
 - (i) a user
 - (1) can use the time codes
 - (2) to selectively access and play back
 - (3) certain portions of the stored visual information captured audio and/or images.

73. The method of Claim 7/1, wherein

- (a) the selected user
 - (i) can edit and/or annotate
 - (1) the certain portions of the visual information and captured audio and/or images.

74.

A method of storing a collaborative multimedia event, comprising the steps of:

- (a) capturing
 - (i) the images and/or audio
 - (ii) of a plurality of workstation users
 - (iii) at an associated plurality of workstations;
- (b) generating
 - (i) data signals,
 - (1) representing associated visual information other than the captured image,
 - (ii) during the step of capturing;
- (c) interactively sharing,
 - (i) the visual information
 - (ii) among the plurality of participants;
- (d) reproducing,
 - (i) one or more of the associated visual information, captured images and/or audio
 - (ii) at the workstations
 - (iii) as a collaborative multimedia event; and
- (e) storing
 - (i) the data, audio and/or video signals
 - (ii) for subsequent retrieval and playback
 - (1) of the associated visual information and captured images and/or audio;
 - (iii) in a synchronized manner.

 $\frac{v^0}{7b}$. The method of Claim 74, wherein

- (a) the associated visual information is at least one of:
 - (i) a snapshot;

- (ii) information associated with an applications program; and
- (iii) a real-time display of video images.

7/6.

The method of Claim 7Å, further comprising the step of

- (a) using
 - (i) either the data, audio or video signals
 - (ii) as a timing reference
 - (iii) to synchronize the play back.

7).

The method of Claim 76, further comprising the step of

- (a) assigning
 - (i) time codes
 - (ii) to the data, audio and/or video signals
 - (iii) during storage
 - (iv) to facilitate
 - (1) synchronizing the play back.

73. 78.

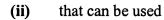
The method of Claim 7/1, further comprising the step of

- (a) using
 - (i) the time codes
 - (ii) to selectively access and play back
 - (1) certain portions of the stored visual information and captured audio and/or images.

74.

The method of Claim 7, further comprising the step of

- (a) providing
 - (i) annotation tools
 - (1) at each workstation



to annotate the visual information. (iii)

The method of Claim 79, further comprising the step of

- (a) editing and/or annotating
 - the certain portions of the visual information and captured audio and/or images.

The method of Claim 7/4, further comprising

- (a) playing back
 - the visual information and captured audio and/or images (i)
 - (ii) at the workstations
 - during an ongoing videoconference, data conference or combined (iii) videoconference and data conference.

A multimedia system, comprising:

- (a) AV capture tools
 - configured to capture (i)
 - (1) images and/or audio
 - (2) of a workstation user;
- (b) means for creating data signals,
 - (i) representing associated visual information
 - (1) other than the captured image, during the step of capturing;
- (c) reproduction facilities
 - **(i)** configured to reproduce
 - (1) one or more of the associated visual information and captured image and/or audio at a workstation; and
- (d) a storage system configured to



- F 1
- (i) store the data, audio and/or image signals so that
 - (1) one or more of them can subsequently be retrieved and
 - (2) the respective associated visual information and captured image and/or audio played back
 - (3) in a synchronized manner.

γ⁸ 83.

The system of Claim 82, wherein

- (a) the associated visual information is at least one of:
 - (i) a bitmap;
 - (ii) information associated with an applications program;
 - (iii) a real-time display of video images; and
 - (iv) textual information.

29 84.

The system of Claim 82, wherein

- (a) the data, audio or image signals
 - (i) can be used
 - (ii) as a timing reference
 - (iii) to synchronize the play back.

30 85.

The system of Claim 82, wherein

- (a) time codes
 - (i) can be assigned
 - (ii) to the data, audio or image signals
 - (iii) to facilitate synchronizing the play back.

31 86.

The system of Claim 82, further comprising

- (a) annotation tools,
 - (i) operable by a user

- (ii) to annotate
- (iii) the visual information, captured audio and/or image.

37.

71 The system of Claim 82, wherein

- (a) a user
 - (i) can cause the multimedia event
 - (ii) to be transferred
 - (1) to a selected user
 - (2) as a multimedia mail message
 - (3) such that the selected user
 - (4) can initiate
 - (5) the play back
 - (6) of the visual information and captured audio and/or image.

3³ 88.

The system of Claim 82, wherein

- (a) the retrieval and play back
 - (i) can be initiated
 - (1) by a participant
 - (2) in an ongoing conference.

34 89.

77
The system of Claim 82, wherein

- (a) the time codes
 - (i) can be used
 - (ii) to selectively access and play back
 - (1) certain portions of the stored visual information captured.